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inhibits the interaction of a carboxymethyl-lysine-modified advanced glycation endproduct (AGE) with a receptor for advanced glycation end product (RAGE), which comprises:

(a) admixing:

(i) the carboxymethyl-lysine-modified AGE,

(ii) RAGE or a fragment thereof which binds to the carboxymethyl-lysine-modified AGE, and

(iii) the compound;

(b) determining the amount of the AGE bound to the RAGE or the fragment thereof; and

(c) comparing the amount of bound AGE determined in step (b) with the amount determined when the AGE is admixed with RAGE or a fragment thereof in the absence of the compound, thereby determining whether the compound inhibits the interaction of the AGE with RAGE or fragment thereof, wherein a reduction in the amount of binding in the presence of the compound indicates that the compound inhibits the interaction.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the AGE is affixed to a solid surface.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the AGE is detectably labeled.